

CASE REPORTS

sponsible for the loss of vision. Vasospasm is also associated with migraine, though it is less likely as a cause because both patients' visual loss resolved coincidentally with delivery and neither had a history of vascular headaches. Thrombosis or emboli in the distribution of the posterior cerebral arteries are unlikely without permanent deficits.

Other cases of cerebral blindness have been reported to occur during pregnancy and are described in eclampsia,¹ hypertensive encephalopathy⁵ and postpartum sinus thrombosis.^{6,7} Data derived from pathology studies suggest that micro-

infarctions and hemorrhages are the basis of these disease states.

REFERENCES

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Medical Practice Questions

EDITOR'S NOTE: From time to time medical practice questions from organizations with a legitimate interest in the information are referred to the Scientific Board by the Quality Care Review Commission of the California Medical Association. The opinions offered are based on training, experience and literature reviewed by specialists. These opinions are, however, informational only and should not be interpreted as directives, instructions or policy statements.

Photon Absorptionmetric Procedure

QUESTION:

Is the photon absorptionmetric procedure, using the Norland-Cameron Bone Mineral Analyzer, an acceptable diagnostic test for osteodystrophy, osteomalacia, osteopenia, senile osteoporosis, Paget's disease? If acceptable, what is the frequency with which this test should be performed?

OPINION:

It is the opinion of the Advisory Panels on Nuclear Medicine, Radiology, Orthopedics, Internal Medicine and Pathology that the photon absorptionmetric procedure, using the Norland-Cameron Bone Mineral Analyzer, is an acceptable test for diagnosing and following therapy of patients with osteodystrophy, osteomalacia, osteopenia, senile osteoporosis and Paget's disease. The frequency of the procedure is generally in the range of three to nine months, depending upon the clinical problem being addressed. In postmenopausal women, the frequency is generally once every one to two years.